

7th February 1924]

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ All I can say is that Sir Ahmad Tambi was the only person who addressed the Government. Sir Ahmad Tambi stated that certain records which were absolutely essential for him to embark on his inquiry were not available and I think there was some kind of search for the records which went on for some time. Sir Ahmad Tambi said that the occasion had gone by for any such inquiry just now and that he allowed it to drop. We thought that he consulted his colleagues.”

Mr. YAHYA ALI SAHIB :—“ I must ask, if the answer to clause (d) is based only upon the report of Sir Ahmad Tambi, whether that is also the opinion of the other members of the Committee.”

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ If the hon. Member desires further information, I will investigate into the matter and publish the circumstances under which the inquiry was dropped.”

Committee to inquire into the Hindu-Muslim disputes.

285 Q.—Mr. ABDUL HYE SAHIB : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether a Committee was formed to inquire into the Hindu-Muslim disputes regarding the playing of music in front of mosques on the motion of Sir Ahmad Tambi Marakkayar; and whether the Government will lay on the table the deliberations of the said Committee?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 284.

Constitution of districts, divisions and taluks.

Re-grouping of village officers.

286 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the re-grouping of village officers recently effected in the district of North Arcot has not only caused much hardship and dissatisfaction to the large body of village officers but detriment to their work inasmuch as the areas assigned to many of the village officers under re-grouping, sometimes including villages six to seven miles apart, have been arbitrarily fixed without regard to securing efficiency ;

(b) whether it is a fact that in the course of re-grouping the claims of experienced karnams were, in many cases, overlooked and new men appointed without regard to service or efficiency ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the recent reduction in the number of village menials has left a large number of villages without a village munsif, or a karnam, or a talaiyari or even a vettiyan with the result that none is available in those villages for safeguarding even Government property ; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the reduction in the number of village menials has made it difficult for the village officers to attend to collection work satisfactorily ?